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Letter From Former Resident.

From the Raton Range, Wilsey, Morris County, Kansas, February 20, 1907.

To The Range-Well, we arrived in pretty cold weather, but we found Grande. Far away to the east stretch tunity to render the best possible of November in a snowstorm and people very clever and we got settled level plains and the country, with service to all traffic in and out of and our stock in shape all right. We proper kind of development, is adapt-north astern New Mexico. The conhave had only one cold spell since ed for grazing purposes and, with the nections at either end of the Swastika rain; it seems as though spring had and here and there can be seen stakes way so that at no time will they be come. The ground is in good shape and some people are talking about making garden soon.

We have a fine artesian well on our farm: the tank has not frozen up this winter; we have watered 150 head of BRACKETT STRIKES stock at it all winter; our stock has done well; we have been able to get

feed reasonable, and plenty of it. the door once every day except Sundays and holidays. We are on a telephone line; we can talk to Emporia Mrs. Fannie Thatcher. | ican.

OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ROUTE A Guest of the Swastika Road Tells of the Beauties any one, will sell on the

of Nature as Viewed From That Line, and of Its Importance to New Mexico's Shippers.

FIRST TRIP OVER THE NEW LINE

rom the Raton Range,

of February, 1907, the first train went justice, we inspected every part of the out over the Swastika Route from place and soon prepared for our home-Raton, New Mexico, to Des Moines, ward trip. New Mexico, and return. It was my great pleasure to be a member of the more beautiful than that of the morn party invited to take this initial trip ing. The air was cool, though the over the new road that gives a new sun was still bright and a few more and much needed connection with the clouds had gathered in the sky to reoutside world to Raton and Northern beve the brightness of the plain and

a beautiful day and soon reached at midday, was even more beautiful Clifton House where we took the new in the long slanting rays of the aftereastern track leading into the hills. noon sun as they touched up the ever-The day was ideal, New Mexico's greens on the sides of old Capulin, bright sun being at its best and the and threw their long shadows from skies dotted here and there with a few the western hills across the plains. A clouds sufficient to give a variety of deep sense of repose seemed to prelight and shadow to mountain and vade the whole landscape and no plain. The new track was in splendid painter among all the great masters condition for the first trip, and the has ever touched a canves with more train going at a good rate of speed beautiful pastoral scene than this of coused no inconvenience to the genial lake, mountain and plain, and the compony of passengers that crowded herds dotting the latter here and the rear platform of the special car to there. Our return trip was made in get the best possible view of the good time and we arrived at Raton at scenery. As the train sped away to 7:30 in the evening filled with restful ward the canons and messs that lead delight from the days outing. to the Una de Gato, we looked back I have told you of the scenery of cross the broad vista of hill and this section and the ease with which plain stretching far away to the west this trip is made, a pleasure soon to until it met the high line of the main be within the reach of all the people range of the Rockies with the timber in the vicinity of Raton, but this trip, clad mountains below, and the glisten- for the business interests of Raton ing peaks of the Snowy Range far and its vicinity, had a greater sigabove shining like diamonds in the nificance than any of these. On the direct rays of the late forenoon sun. return trip we brought back with us The approach to the Una de Gato two car loads of freight which when winds around the edges of the hills, landed at the Raton depot were just past the broad ranches lying in the forty-eight hours out of Denver. valleys below where large herds of These two ordinary bcx cars, filled cattle were feeding in quiet content- with merchandise, plain as they may ment. We seen reached the crossing seem, opened a new era to Ruton and of the Una de Gato where its deep Northern New Mexico, for now it will canon opens a gap leading up to no longer be necessary that the ship-Johnson Park. At this point is one pers of Raton and vicinity should wait of the prettiest visws on the road. To for days and weeks, perhaps months, the east stretches away this canon be- for delivery of their freight from the tween the high walls of malpias rock jobbing centers. A new competition weathered into fantestic forms and is in the field and the new road is eclored in beauty with Nature's hand putting forth every effort to handle painting of the ages. To the west its business with promptness and disstretched away the broad, deep val- patch in order that the business men leys reaching to the lesser hills and of its field may have equal advantmountains beyond, the largest of ages with those of the common points these being the Sierra Grande, cover- elsewhere. The St. Louis, Rocky ed in streaks and patches with its Mountain & Pacific Railway company pinon trees giving a restful touch of is now ready to begin the handling of green to the eye. From this point freight and expect to increase its servthe train began to climb up an easy ice as rapidly as necessary to meet grade showing the excellent work of the demands upon it. he engineers and builders, until it The Swastika Route h reached the highest point to its length eru connections. By the way of the and we passed out upon "The Vegas." Colorado & Southern Railway at Des These are broad, level, grassy plains, Moines, New Mexico, it connects, on strange to say, much better supplied the north, with Denver and all eastern with water than even the valleys be points; on the south, by way of the low. Here and there were lakes, Colorado & Southern Railway and some of them hundreds of acres in ex- the Rock Island at Dalhart, Texas, it tent. Large herds of cattle were here has another officient eastern con-

THE HOT IRON

our new home very well. Yours truly, terial for bridge building.-New Mex- sa from Engle, N. M., where he had

by the new raiload. After lunch on On last Wednesday the 20th day the car, to which we certainly did full' Also have plenty of money to loan on

The return trip, if possible, was hill with their varying shadows, The train left the new depot of the When we reached "The Vegas" late St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific in the afternoon the day was at its Railway Co. at 9:30 in the morning of best. This scene be a tiful as it was

feeding on the well cured grasses and nection. At Vermejo, on the western were in the best possible condition. extension of the Swastika Route, Off to the east we could see old there is a junction with the Dawson Capolin Mountain with its deep branch of the Chicago, Rock Island & crater mouth open at one side where, Pacific Railway, whereby traffic is long ago, a stream of lava had flowed routed to El Paso and all southwestdown upon the plain below, forming ern points, and to the Pacific coast as the malpais dykes that dotted its sur- well, by the way of the Southern Paface. A little after noon our train cific Railway. At Vermejo traffic can reached the station of Des Moines also be routed for eastern points by where connection is made with the direct and continuous connection over Colorado & Southern Railway. Des the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Moines is now a little town of tents Railway by the way of Tucumcari, Morris county, Kansas, about the 20th and frame buildings nestling just out New Mexico. These several con of the shadow of the old Sierra nections give the new road on oppor progress of the science of farming, to Route make it possible in case of agriculture. The little town is busy necessity to route their freight either where some enterprising newcomer unable to deliver their traffic unless, has laid out town lots, a forecast of as will seldom ever happen, both ends what is to be in the growth of this of the road out of Raton should be town with the progress to be brought | impassable at the same time.

Body of J. H Golns Found. Alamogordo, N. M., Feb. 18.-The body of J. H. Goins was found today Joseph P. Brackett of Raton, sec-twenty-eight miles west of Tularosa retary of the Walter Sharp Con- It was badly decomposed and one the school house, and get our mail at struction company, who has personal arm burned off, the corpse being charge of the erection of the rein- found lying across the ashes of the forced concrete bridge on Galisto dead man's camp fire. The appearstreet, addressed the Good Roads ance of the remains indicated that convention and invited the delegates the man had been dead about four and Kansas City and surrounding vi to inspect the work on the bridge. days. The supposition is that he was cipity. We are five miles west of He stated that good bridges were as seized with heart failure and fell into Council Grove, five miles east of essential as good roads, and that re- the fire. Goins, who was a cowboy Wilsey and three miles from a ship- inforced concrete is being demon- and leaves a wife, was on his way ping point called Helmick. We like strated as the most serviceable ma- across country to his home at Tularo-

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Installment Plan

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